

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL EDINBURGH IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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EDINBURGH FOR SULLIVAN US DEL KNAF

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 142411 ACTION BERLIN 17 JUNE.

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, US, GE

SUBJECT: FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH GDR

REF: STATE 133629

1. DEPTOFF (EQR/CE DIRECTOR ANDERSON) GAVE GDR EMBASSY
COUNSELOR ELM DIPLOMATIC NOTE ON FISHERIES ON JUNE 13
CONTAINING SUBSTANTIVE LANGUAGE PARA 4 REFTEL. DEPTOFF
INDICATED THAT DELAYED RESPONSE TO GDR FEBRUARY 25 NOTE
PROPOSING BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON FISHERIES WAS CAUSED
LARGELY BY EXTENDED ABSENCE OF KEY US FISHERIES EXPERTS
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AT LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE, WHICH ONLY RECESSED MAY 10.

HE SAID THAT SINCE THE CONFERENCE DID NOT CONCLUDE AN AGREEMENT OR TO SET A LIMIT FOR A CONCLUSION OF ITS WORK, THE US WAS CURRENTLY REASSESSING FISHERIES POLICY. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, USG DID NOT CONSIDER IT DESIRABLE TO ENTER INTO ANY NEW BILATERAL FISHERIES AGREEMENTS AT THIS TIME.

2. ELM ASKED HOW THIS APPLIED TO US NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIETS, WHICH SLATED TO PICK UP AGAIN IN JULY, AND TO RECENTLY COMPLETED FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH POLAND. DEPTOFF EXPLAINED THAT THESE INVOLVED COMPLETION OF

NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAD LONG BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION. THEY WERE NOT THE BEGINNING OF NEW TALKS AS IN GDR CASE. US DID NOT INTEND BEGIN ANY NEW NEGOTIATION WITH ANY COUNTRY DURING PERIOD OF REVIEW. ELM ASKED WHETHER GDR PROPOSALS COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AGREEMENT ALREADY UNDER CONSIDERATION. DEPTOFF REPLIED THAT THIS WAS NOT POSSIBLE. HE SAID THAT DEPARTMENT, HOWEVER, VALUED GDR COOPERATION ON FISHERIES MATTERS AND WAS PREPARED TO RE-EVALUATE GDR PROPOSAL ONCE POLICY GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED TO SEE WHAT FUTURE APPROPRIATE FISHERIES AGREEMENTS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. WHAT FORM FUTURE AGREEMENTS MIGHT ULTIMATELY TAKE, HOWEVER, WAS STILL OPEN QUESTION, WHICH COULD ONLY BE DECIDED FOLLOWING COMPLETION DEPARTMENT REVIEW.

3. IN ENSUING DISCUSSION, DEPTOFF NOTED THAT CURRENTLY STRONG PRESSURES EXISTED IN CONGRESS, AS WELL AS IN A NUMBER OF FOREIGN STATES, UNILATERALLY TO DECLARE 200 MILE FISHERIES ZONE. SENATE PASSED "MAGNUSON" 200 MILE FISHERIES BILL LAST SESSION DESPITE STRONG ADMINISTRATION OPPOSITION. PRESSURE WAS MOUNTING AGAIN THIS SESSION IN BOTH HOUSES TO UNILATERALLY EXTEND US FISHERIES JURISDICTION, WITH GOOD CHANCE OF EARLY PASSAGE. ADMINISTRATION CONTINUED TO FAVOR RESOLUTION OF THIS MATTER BY MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT IN LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE, RATHER THAN UNILATERALLY. QUESTION OF HOW THIS CAN BEST BE ACHIEVED WILL BE MAJOR FOCUS OF US POLICY REVIEW.

4. ELM ASKED WHETHER AGREEMENTS ALREADY REACHED IN ICNAF CONTEXT WOULD CONTINUE TO HOLD DURING POLICY REVIEW, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND WAS ASSURED THAT THIS WOULD BE THE CASE.

5. IN OTHER MATTERS:

A.) DEPTOFF REVIEWED STATUS PREPARATIONS FOR A SECOND ROUND OF CONSULAR CONVENTION NEGOTIATIONS, INDICATING THAT DEPARTMENT HOPED BE READY FOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS IN JULY. ELM SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INDICATION

THAT GDR ALSO THINKING IN TERMS OF JULY NEGOTIATIONS.
DEPTOFF REITERATED, HOWEVER, THAT NATIONALITY PROVISION
CONTAINED IN GDR CONSULAR CONVENTION DRAFT CAUSED VERY
SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES FOR US SIDE.

B.) DEPTOFF NOTED THAT HUMANITARIAN CASES,
WHILE PROGRESSING, WERE MOVING AT RELATIVELY SLOW PACE.
HE NOTED THAT DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH REVIEW STATUS OF
THESE CASES WITH GDR EMBASSY IN NEAR FUTURE.

C.) DEPTOFF INDICATED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT GDR
EMBASSY HAD NOT YET SEEN JEWISH LEADERS ON QUESTION OF
COMPENSATION FOR VICTIMS OF NAZISM. DEPARTMENT ALSO
FAVORED KEEPING TALKS IN PRIVATE CHANNELS, BUT FELT
FAILURE OF GDR EMBASSY AT LEAST TO HEAR OUT THESE
LEADERS WOULD HAVE NEGATIVE IMPACT IN U.S.

D.) IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRY FROM ELM, DEPTOFF
INDICATED THAT CHANGES IN COUNTRY OF ORIGIN REGULATIONS
PERMITTING USE OF TERMINOLOGY "MADE IN GERMAN
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC" WOULD BECOME LAW WITH THEIR PUB-
LICATION IN FEDERAL REGISTER. THIS EXPECTED TAKE
PLACE IN NEXT FEW WEEKS, AFTER WHICH NEW REGULATIONS
WOULD BE GIVEN WIDE CIRCULATION IN CUSTOMS BULLETIN. KISSINGER
UNQUOTE

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